

ARANSAS PASS CITY NEWS

Issue 21 **July 2019**



CITY BUDGET PROCESS UNDERWAY

Pictured above is the City Budget Team which meets with each city department to go over every line of the City Budget. Those sessions were held during the final week of June. The budget team is made up of City Councilperson Vicki Abrego, Finance Director Sandra Garcia and City Manager Gary Edwards. At this meeting, they are meeting with Fire Chief Nathan Kelley and Assistant Chief Nate Borrego. Meetings with all city departments began Monday morning, June 24th and lasted until late Friday afternoon June 28th. At these sessions, departmental representatives are asked to defend all their budget requests. The next step in the budgetary process is to present a budget preview to the City Council on July 15th. There will be a budget work session with the City Council on July 29th. Adoption of the FY20 budget will be in September.

OUT SOON

It's that time of the year. In a few weeks, we will be distributing the Citizens' Survey to every household in Aransas Pass. This will be your opportunity to let us know what you think about the various City services. Last year was the first such survey. This second canvass will be measured against the first to see where improvements have been made or need to be made. The survey will be mailed with the August utility bill.



GEOTECHNICAL WORK BEGINS FOR NEW ROADS AT CONN BROWN HARBOR

Ground borings and other geotechnical work began in June at Conn Brown Harbor. This work is part of upcoming improvements to the harbor Roads where completely new streets will be built with an adjacent bike/walking path. Pictured above is equipment sent in by Dannenbaum Engineering Corporation. Dannenbaum is designing the Conn Brown improvements. The City Applied for and received a \$5 million grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) for this work.

NEW CITY VIDEO EX-PLAINS POLICE DE-PARTMENT TEXT/ 9-1-1 SERVICE

The City of Aransas Pass has added an important service for Citizens. Residents are now able to contact 9-1-1 by text in addition to the telephone. This new feature can be important and even life-saving if the victim does not want someone to know they are contacting 9-1-1. It also can be helpful if the victim wants to remain quiet while contacting 9-1-1. The video explaining this new service can be found on the City webpage. You can search for "informational videos". Other city informational videos can be found here. Shown below from the video are Police Chief Eric Blanchard (L) and Telecommunications Supervisor Crystal Bath (R)



CITY STAFF PRESENTS BUDGET NEEDS TO CITY COUNCIL

For the second year, **Aransas Pass City** Staff made a halfday presentation to the City Council on June 14th explaining why their budget requests are important to City Services. Each department spent days preparing their presentations. As is the case each year, the proposed expenditures exceed the revenues. However, this session helps set budgetary priorities. The City budgetary process begins in April/May and extends until September.





CITY COUNCIL BUDGET PRIORTIZATION MEET-ING HELD ON JUNE 14TH

A strategic Planning session was held in mid-June in order to determine what the City Council's FY20 budget priorities are. Shown above are the worksheets from this year's planning session displaying the departmental priorities. After each department head gave a presentation explaining and defending their budget requests, the Council went around to each worksheet and placed a stick-um dot on their preferred project/expense. The priorities were then taken to the June 24th—28th budget meetings and will be reviewed throughout the budgetary process. Some of the Council preferences relate to staffing needs; pay for employees, roads, infrastructure and various types of needed equipment.

Volunteers Are Wanted

For the

City of Aransas Pass Independence Day Celebration

The City would like to encourage

Local Businesses, Civic Organizations,

and Individual Volunteers to come out

and help make this event a huge success!

All food, drinks, and prizes are provided. We need help with manning activities and game stations for kids. We can even help provide games and activities. This is a great way to showcase your business and show community spirit.

When: July 3rd from 6:30-9:30 activities

Where: Community Park

Please Contact: Sarah Lee

361-205-0800 or slee@aransaspasstx.gov

for more details and we will get you involved